

HOLDING THE MOMENT

Artist Narratives

March 22, 2021 - April 24, 2021



I don't like corona virus
I wear a mask so I don't
get sick. I don't like
when I have to stay home
with my friends I miss
them as the adults
saying you should
go to the park.
I miss

Alicia Aldama | *Ixchel*: In these first months of quarantine I was curious to find out what children actually know about COVID-19. What have they heard? How has it affected them? While a lot of information can be captured in a photograph, the children’s handwritten perspectives in the composition reminds us that they have voices. Children may not fully understand what is going on, but their words are important to the collective conversation; they are meaningful and deserve to be heard.



José Luis Andrade | *Los Caprichos del Siglo 21*: This piece is an interpretation of the turmoil happening in our actuality. The title is based on social, religious, and dark times that Goya depicted during the Spanish inquisition. This piece reflects core problems, but also the glimmer of hope that we let die out many times.



Tanya Angeli | *380,041*: This painting is second in a collection of five works that sequentially convey the effects of confinement and stress on the human spirit. The COVID-19 case numbers significantly escalated compared to the first piece in the series and consequently so has the level of stress shown by the subjects. Despite this piece having a more serious tone than the first in the series, there is still an underlying feeling of hope amid the quiet chaos.



Laura Boyd-Klemba | *Their View*: What are children thinking behind the mask and walls of COVID-19 quarantine? Forced to take on a host of adult problems, they are the youngest of victims. Empty playgrounds, empty schools, no sports or activities, all viewed through their eyes.



Julie Bovee | *Please Don't Smell the COVID Flowers*: This piece highlights the disconnect between breathing to rejuvenate and fear of inhaling. When the pandemic first hit the news, I puzzled over the paradox of the striking images of the virus versus the ugliness of the pandemic it spawned. In a similar contradictory fashion, the red-streaked beauty of poison oak came to mind. With poison oak, the warning "look, but don't touch" is well known. I've made this virus visible as a meadow of virus flowers , and so the warning becomes "look, but don't breathe."








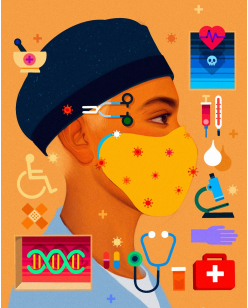


Jorge Camacho | *Change*: One of the things I miss most from pre-COVID19 is working outdoors in public and interacting with the sounds and people of the city. After a few weeks of shelter-in-place, my good friends Justin Barreras, Corey Alexander, and I decided to have a socially distant paint session on the rooftop of a workspace in the SOFA District. The mural is a single word painted large enough to be seen from aircraft coming inbound from the south to San José Airport. “Change” is what everyone is experiencing right now; simply painting the word “Change” was appropriate.



Loren Cermak | *Jada*: Jada is a childhood friend. I chose to represent her because of the strength she has demonstrated throughout her life thus far. I adorn her with gold to represent how I cherish her and our friendship. She is an inspiration to me. I celebrate Jada and find that she is an inspiration to anyone she meets.



Zahra (Mandana) Fard | *Life-1*: Life is beautiful but very fragile. Whether human or non-human being or a plant, I appreciate and respect life.

	<p>Yolanda Guerra <i>A Mother's Dream of Returning Children:</i> This linoleum print quilted on fabric captures the loss of a mother who is longing for the return of her children. The concept stems from the mothers who have been separated from their children/babies at the border by our government. I wanted to express the hope that one day they will be reunited.</p>
	<p>Edi Hsu <i>Pandemic: Essentials Only:</i> At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, these journals were painted live at businesses and services deemed essential, and therefore allowed to remain open. Among locations portrayed are grocery stores, post offices, hospitals, and hardware stores.</p>
	<p>Valentino Loyola <i>Filtering COVID-19:</i> In the wake of COVID-19 shelter-in-place, my entrepreneurial endeavors came to a sudden halt. The last few years an incubation, now on track, seller's permit, business license. This year, 2020, was to be my big moment! Frustration arrives but is not permitted to dictate the outcome. This photograph illustrates a passing moment of frustration and isolation. From this photograph forward, working in my studio consistently, utilizing this time of shelter in place to organize, strategize, and plan accordingly for the delayed, but not denied breakout! First. Frustration.</p>
	<p>Brittni Paul <i>Shelter:</i> Pangolins are the most poached mammal in the world. Along with bats, pangolins are closely linked to the spread of coronavirus from animal to human. By protecting these critically endangered species, mankind can, in turn, be protected from zoonotic pandemic potential. This piece is meant to capture a moment in time where mother and baby are safe in their shelter, much like how we humans sheltered-in-place with our loved ones.</p>
	<p>Glenna Rand <i>Corona Corruption:</i> This work was inspired by the fear and uncertainty generated in response to the outbreak. The round medium echoes the virus cellular image.</p>
	<p>Samuel Rodriguez <i>Eres Esencial (Medical Workers):</i> A dedication to our Essential Workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>
	<p>Kenneth Tan The Lola x Kenneth Collaboration <i>Rose:</i> My grandmother painted the grey watercolor flower, and I drew the black lines and honeybee. My grandmother is fond of flowers. The rose is one of her favorites. She grew them in her garden in San José. My grandmother raised flowers because they're beautiful. I think my grand- mother was beautiful because she could raise flowers to bloom. While we endure these times, I am especially amazed by nature and its resilience. There are days I feel like life is paused, then I look out the window and I see nature didn't stop. It's beautiful and it's blooming.</p>
	<p>Bill Vujevich <i>Mask of Emotion:</i> The wide range of emotions people are experiencing due to the pandemic inspired this piece. COVID-19 has had an effect on everyone from all walks of life. I chose the image of the mask because I feel that it has become such a powerful and controversial symbol.</p>
<p>Images may be cropped to fit this narrative format. To view the full image, please visit the exhibition or online: www.sanjoseca.gov/HoldingTheMomentSJ.</p>	